



*Enale*

Attorney Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

Patent  
015290-502

*RCE/2823*

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Helen H. ZHU et al.

Group Art Unit: 2823

Application No.: 09/820,694

Examiner: J. J. Maldonado

Filing Date: March 30, 2001

Confirmation No.: 7374

Title: METHOD OF PLASMA ETCHING SILICON NITRIDE

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
TRANSMITTAL LETTER

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Customer Number 21839

Sir:

Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the

☐ \$385.00 (2801) ☒ \$770.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).

1. ☐ A. Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered.  
Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified in item 2 below.

☒ B. Applicant(s) previously submitted the following documents for which continued examination is requested:

☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on  
February 17, 2004

☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. The following documents are enclosed with this submission:

☒ Amendment/Reply.

☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s).

☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS).

☒ A Petition for Extension of Time.

☒ Other: REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

03/22/2004 CNGUYEN 00000053 024800 09820694

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770.00 DA

**BURNS DOANE**

BURNS DOANE SWECKER & MATHIS LLP  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
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Page 1 of 2  
(2/04)

3. ☐ Small entity status is hereby claimed.  
☐ No additional claim fee is required.  
☒ The fee is calculated below on the basis of the highest number of claims already paid for in this application prior to this submission:

CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Thus Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Fee
Basic Application Fee (1001)					\$ 770.00
Total Claims	24	MINUS 23 =	1	x \$18.00 (1202) =	\$ 18.00
Independent Claims	3	MINUS 3 =	0	x \$86.00 (1201) =	\$ 0.00
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$290.00 (1203)					
Total Fee					\$ 788.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Amendment Fee					\$ 0.00
TOTAL FEE DUE					\$ 788.00

4. ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for the fee due.  
5. ☒ Charge \$ 788.00 to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.  
6. ☐ Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least \_\_\_\_\_, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.

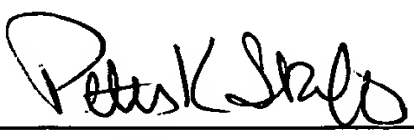
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620

Filed: March 19, 2004

By   
Peter K. Skiff  
Registration No. 31,917



Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 015290-502

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	<b>MAIL STOP: RCE</b>
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Helen H. ZHU et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 2823
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Application No.: 09/820,694	)	Examiner: J. J. Maldonado
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For: METHOD OF PLASMA ETCHING	)	
SILICON NITRIDE	)	

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to entry of the February 17, 2004 Amendment as requested in the Request  
for Continued Examination filed herewith, please amend the above-identified application as  
follows: